

CHICAGO, ILL.
TRIBUNE

M. 831,904
S. 1,138,268

JUL 24 1965

About Women in Washington

CPYRGHT

BY MARY PAKENHAM

WASHINGTON, July 23—Ever since President Johnson proposed an end to what he called "stag government," much has been made of each woman appointed to a federal post.

A stampede of women eager for the limelight has frequently left the White House stage littered with hairpins and the price tags from new hats. But a few feminine appointees have had to be ever so gently coaxed out of the wings, and such a one is Penelope Hartland Thunberg.

Mrs. Thunberg learned at 11 a. m. July 13 that she would fill a year old vacancy on the United States Tariff commission. Two hours later she was in the east room of the White House, being introduced to a mob of dignitaries, reporters, and cameramen. Her reaction, she said, was "gulp."

Mrs. Thunberg's emergence from anonymity was by easy stages. Since 1954, she has worked for the central intelligence agency.

When she became one of six winners of this year's fifth annual federal woman's award, she was deputy chief of the international division of the CIA's office of research and reports.

HER WORK in planning economics research for the agency included such chores as evaluating the economic relations

of Russian bloc countries, and her sources were not to be found in the catalogs of the Library of Congress.

"How comfortable," she told interviewers when her award was announced, "was the cloak of anonymity that has just swooshed away."

Soon after that event last spring, Mrs. Thunberg was promoted to acting chief of the trade and services division of the CIA's office of research and reports. So anonymous was she still, however, that news of this promotion escaped the President until after he had captured her for the tariff commission.

Johnson gave her the old title in his July 13 announcement, but Mrs. Thunberg forgave him without effort. "That's a lovely chandelier up there," she told bystanders pointing to one of the historic East Room's crystal fixtures. "I feel as if I were sitting on it, watching what is happening to this creature."



Mrs. Thunberg

THE attractive, dark-haired new commissioner is a native of Stoneham, Mass. She has a bachelor's degree in economics from Pembroke college, where she was a Phi Beta Kappa, and was graduated summa cum laude. She has master's and doctoral degrees from Radcliffe.

She taught economics at Wells college, Mount Holyoke, and Brown university. In 1950 she became a research associate in the national bureau of economic research. She joined the staff of the Council of Economic Advisers a year later, and returned there on loan from the CIA in 1963, staying until 1964.

Her husband, Howard, is a coal research specialist for the interior department. She is an independent voter, affiliated with no political party.